



the

# Harbinger

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William Rainey Harper College's Student Newspaper  
Volume 35 Issue 7 Week of March 3rd, 2003

## NO WAY OUT:

At the E2 Club in Chicago and at The Station in Rhode Island, tragedies call into question the safety of some metropolitan hot spots. **Habib Behrouzi** reports:

Havoc strikes nightclubs in the week of Feb 16, 2003. Early morning Monday, Feb. 17, 2003, 21 people died and 50 were injured at the E2 nightclub at 2347 S. Michigan Ave. Sources say that the cause of the tragedy was a fight that started between two women on the dance floor at the nightclub. Security stepped in and used pepper spray in an attempt to resolve the conflict.

The fog of burning air drove people in a panic, which forced them to rush for exit. However, the rush turned into a stampede as the 32-inch-wide stairwell started filling up with the estimated 500 people who were at the club.

There are rumors that security was blocking the exits to obtain crowd control, but that has not been confirmed yet. There were also rumors that the back emergency doors were locked and blocked with laundry. The city retracted those statements as well as its original statement that 1500 people occupied the nightclub that night.

Nonetheless, attorneys of victims' families say that the building did have numerous violations such as exit signs not properly lit, stairways too narrow, and the landing deck of the stairwell not being the required four feet. City officials did say that none of the code violations contributed to the 21 deaths.

The owner, Dwayne Kyles, accepts responsibility with respect to civil liability. Kyles is still being charged with indirect contempt of court for going against a court order to shut down the E2.

"You don't have a right to dis-



The E2 club, now closed and blocked off, is where 21 people were trampled to death on February 17th. The debate continues as to where the fault lies.

Photo by Nicole May Luna

obey a court order until someone catches you or until a disaster happens," Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley said.

Andre Grant, Kyle's attorney, stated in a TV interview that the court order only applied to the upper VIP/mezzanine area of the second floor. He also pointed out that the city states there were 409 occupants at the club and the capacity is 425.

In the midst of being on terrorist alert, there is no doubt that the first reaction to hearing about the tragedy was "Was it terrorist-related?" It is a sheer misfortune to be sidetracked from what is going on in the Middle East to world news that hits so close to home.

There are many facts to the E2 tragedy that have not come out yet and many allegations that

have not yet been confirmed. But that is not to say the families and friends of the victims will not know the truth in who really is responsible.

In a similar situation Thursday night, Feb 20, 2003, in Rhode Island, the nightclub The Station became a blazing inferno. The rock band Great White performed using pyrotechnics which started the blaze. The fire claimed the lives of at least 97 people and injured at least 190 others. The building did not have a sprinkler system and wasn't required to due to the square footage of the building.

Most of the victims were found by the front door. The emergency exits at the rear of the building were not used. West Warwick Fire Capt. Russell McGillivray stated that people

are conditioned to go out the way they came in.

The building apparently did not have the license to use the pyrotechnics but lead singer Jack Russell states that he had permission to use the fireworks.

These shocking occurrences are not soon to be forgotten, as friends and family of the victims as well as interested parties petition their respective cities and mayors for answers. In the meantime, the tragedies have hopefully called much-needed attention to safety where people spend so much of their time.

The number of those killed in the fire seems to be increasing as it started with 35 on Thursday. Our prayers go out to the victims of the E2 tragedy and the Rhode Island fire and their families and friends.



N E W S

# Harper security rises alongside the U.S.

By John Krupa

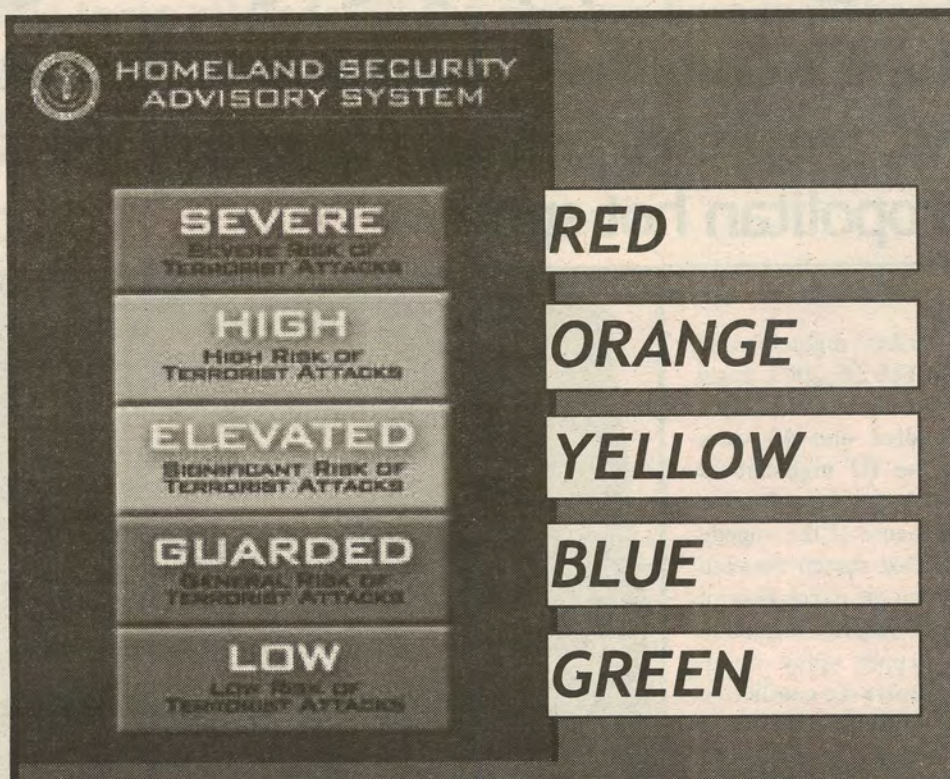
The government raised the Homeland Security Advisory System to orange, or high, on Feb. 7. Consequently, the Department of Public Safety has increased security at Harper. The school's Emergency Action Plan has been modified and police officers have been put on a "heightened state of alert."

The changes at Harper may be motivated by the fact that terrorists could attack "soft" targets – low-security locations where large groups of people congregate. Colleges fall under this category and are at risk, according to FBI Director Robert Mueller. "Al Qaeda is looking at colleges and other poorly defended locations as possible targets for terrorist attacks," the head of the FBI told a Senate committee on Feb. 11.

Besides being "soft" targets, colleges may be attractive to terrorists for other reasons. Campuses tend to be open and easily accessible, are often state and federally funded, house important scholars and researchers, and are symbols of our country's power.

Supervisor of Public Safety Michael Alsup is the official primarily responsible for modifying and adjusting security at Harper. "We have taken some steps. ... We are on a heightened state of awareness," he said. Alsup initially declined to comment on specific changes made since the threat level was raised. "We have an emergency plan but it is not accessible to the public. If it was, then people could understand how to defeat it."

Alsup did give some clues to the changes later on. "We have taken measures to make us a hardened target. ... We keep the IT [information technology] space locked up and the workers have to wear IDs, vendors and maintenance staff must check in, and we are looking for packages and things out of context – like if a guy



Above: an example of the color-coding scale used by the government to assess threat levels. Harper security rises accordingly.

walks in wearing a trench coat on a summer day, we'd check it out. At every meeting, the officers are told about the alert status and what it means."

Alsup went on to explain how it is inherently difficult to balance security concerns with a desire to keep the college a free and open environment. "It is a difficult balance. We want safety and security without intruding on freedom. It's hard to draw a line between being proactive and alarmist," he said.

Considering these difficulties, Alsup said students must play a more active role in keeping their campus safe. "The public needs to take responsibility for their own safety. It's not realistic that the police can take care of everything. 9/11 shows how

fallible we are."

Specifically, students may contribute to campus security by being more aware of their surroundings and by reporting any unusual occurrences. "Students should be a little more cognizant of their personal safety. ... They should report all suspicious activity."

Alsup implied that students haven't done a particularly good job of this in the past. "There is typical community college apathy [about security]. People just come and go home." A program that allows students to give tips anonymously will be started, in an effort to encourage community members to participate in keeping their campus safe

## the Harbinger

Harper College's Premier news publication

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### GENERAL INFO:

The Harbinger is the Harper College student publication published bi-weekly throughout the school year,

except during holidays and final exams. It is distributed free to all students, faculty and administration.

The Harbinger's sole purpose is to provide the Harper community with information pertaining to the campus, surrounding activities, and events of note.

### LETTERS POLICY:

We welcome letters to the editor and replies to our editorials. Letters must be signed and include a phone number for verification. Signatures will be withheld upon request. All letters and content are subject to editing.

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# Second semester heralds a busy schedule for the Student Senate

By Georgia Latta

At the beginning of this semester, one of Harper's male students faced an attacker while leaving the library. Consequently,

concerns about student safety and the possibility of all types of harassment on campus grow, and questions abound. Why isn't the administration taking this seriously? Do all students face risk? Should each student walk around campus only when accompanied by a buddy?

The student senate continues to address concerns regarding harassment, but as in many governmental systems, the senate also continues to run into problems. Many ideas on how to address the issue of harassment have been broached. Yet most of these ideas have been met with a negative.

"Most of the solutions we come up with seem like good ideas," said Arpan Shah, president of the student senate, but then when we present them to people who have been at

Harper for a few years, we find that these same solutions were tried in the past and have not proved to be effective."

One of the most likely solutions seems to be one that includes a 24-hour security person monitoring the problem areas.

"The problem is, Public Safety may not have enough people on staff to station one at all times in the areas of concern," Shah said. So the problem continues. It would seem that one of Harper's main concerns should be the safety of its students, so hiring on extra staff (in Public Safety) should be a no-brainer. Perhaps if more of the students took up the cause of ensuring safe passage to and from class, the bureaucratic red tape would get thinner, but like all institutions, Harper College seems to be concerned with the bottom line.

Last semester's strike and salary negotiations have already ensured that the students at

Harper face a small tuition increase. Add to that the cost of five additional employees to safeguard problem areas, and the increase may go up significantly. However, most students probably would not mind paying a few extra dollars if it meant that they didn't need to worry about their well-being while on campus.

In addition to the continuing discussions over the alleged sexual and now physical harassment issues, the senate also welcomed its new representatives this semester: Cary Wolovick, Natalie Innocenti, Greg Robbins, Jacob Cripe and Lauren Faems joined the senate to better help the voices of Harper's students be heard.

Another issue the senate discussed this past session comprises the ongoing construction project and the availability of parking spaces in lot 12.

"I just think the students should know that there is additional parking available," Shah stated, while also voicing a con-

cern over whether these spaces would remain available to the student body or whether they would again be taken over by construction crews. In addition to the availability of spaces in lot 12, Jeanne Pankanin gave the senate an abridged description of the plans for the building renovations. She talked about the possibility of a new campus life center and the possibility of renovating buildings G and H.

"In order to get the campus life center (and state funding) approved by the state, it has been packaged with the plans for (buildings) G and H," Pankanin also talked about the new blue and gray signs going up around the campus.

Originally, for the most part, all the buildings around campus sported only their titles such as The Performing Arts Center or The Wellness Center. While fine for people who knew where to go, when it came to new students who had classes in building J, the

titles proved little help in finding the eventual destination. The attractive new signs make the letters of the buildings quite clear. This should help new Harper students negotiate their schedules.

Shah also wanted Harper students to know about the Pride Unity Banner, which offers different student groups the opportunity to join Pride in extending its hand of friendship to all of Harper's constituency. Flyers regarding the banner can be obtained at the Student Activities office. In addition, Phi Theta Kappa, Harper's honor fraternity, holds its induction ceremony on March 14 in building J at 5 p.m.

So with the new representatives, the new and improved campus grounds, different club meetings and events, and promises of harassment solutions, so far this semester promises to be a busy one not just for our student senate but also for the rest of Harper's student body.

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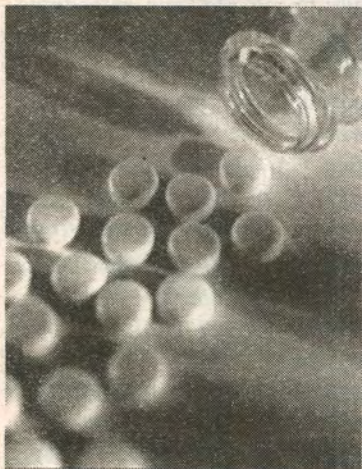
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# DEPRESSION:

MORE  
THAN  
JUST  
BEING  
SAD

**Major depression is an illness, one that is horrible, devastating, life-threatening... and just as common at Harper as anywhere else, writes Emily Volenec**



**J**ennifer sat in her car.

Nobody seemed to care about her. Life at home was dismal and abusive. She had no idea what anyone expected of her. Though she was only 18, she felt like 100, and she wanted to die. She was so sure of this that she'd told her mother... but her mother didn't care. No one did.

The air inside of her car grew stifling as emotions rolled over her. She wanted to weep, but all of her tears were dry. Picking up a bottle of pills, one of many on her passenger seat, she unscrewed the lid.

Jennifer is an example of a typical person suffering from major depression. According to the National Institute of Mental Health, 19 million adults over the age of 18 suffer from depression every year. Among these adults, college student's mental health problems have seen a "dramatic increase" over the last 13 years, according to the American Psychological Association (APA).

Why? College students experience more difficult problems these days. According to a study done by the APA, these problems include relationship troubles,

stress, family issues, physical problems and suicidal thoughts. Harper Students in particular experience more stress, according to Harper College clinical psychologist Karen Levington, who reports that 90-91 percent of all Harper students work at least 30 hours a week in addition to a full-time load. The dramatic increase is probably also due to poor health care resources, according to Levington. This year she reports that they saw 1,000 to 1,400 students for psychological health issues. This is not a representation of how many Harper students see someone for mental health since many may have insurance and seek help off campus.

## What it is

It is muted emotions as defined by William Jedlicka, Harper College psychology professor and licensed psychologist.

"Depressed people don't generally show emotions normally," Jedlicka says. They may not enjoy former activities or eat too much. Jedlicka says they may feel worthless, then relationships suffer and they're not fun to be around, which affects their self-esteem. According to the National Institute of Mental Health, victims must have these feelings for at least two weeks in order to be diagnosed with depression.

"Everybody has their bad days," Jedlicka says, "but if it goes on for longer than two weeks, they're probably depressed."

Major depressive disorder, which hurts about 5 percent of the adult population, usually does not allow the affected person to function. In many cases, he or she will have to be hospitalized.

## How it starts



There are three types of behavior that characterize depression according to Jedlicka. These include a negative view of self, a negative view of the future and self-pity. These factors begin a roller coaster of emotions that is hard to pull out of without help. Usually an issue begins these feelings. This may include breakup of a relationship, divorce, death, and stress according to the American College Health Association.

Eric, 19, was driven into depression after the terrorist attack on 9/11. His father was a firefighter, and he constantly thought about people who were gone and wondered whether his dad would have died had his family lived in Washington, D.C., or New York. His feelings were characterized by anger, a cover-up for immense sadness.

"I am glad that I am getting help," Eric says, "but I am angry at the reason."

Thoughts like these can drive a person, like Eric, into a downward spiral that is difficult and painful to pull out of.

Friends and family of people like Eric can stop depression before it starts, if caught early enough, according to Jedlicka. "There's a method used to challenge self-statements," he says. "Someone says, 'I'm going to be at Harper for 25 years,' and some-



one else asks them if that is really true or if it's just how they feel."

Depressed people often feel that it's not fair that certain people are smarter than they are, etc., and the big job, says Jedlicka, is to convince them that life is not fair and to make the best of it with the cards they do have.

## Getting Help

Harper College offers physical and mental health services in the A building on the second floor. A psychologist offers talk therapy to those who need it. Don't be afraid to ask for help, Jedlicka says. Even though people do not talk about depression like it's a medical illness, it is.

"There's carryover from 200 years ago," he says. "People may say you're a bad person or affected by the devil, which isn't true."

The sad truth is that only two-thirds of those suffering from depression seek help because of the stigma attached to it, but the best thing that people can do for themselves is to get that help. Jennifer never sought help, first because her mother called therapy a sin, and after she moved out, she had loving, caring people who would listen to her.

How can parents and friends help a depressed person? "Don't tell them that they have nothing to be upset about," Jedlicka warns. Actually, patients may have something to be upset about and are denying it. The American College Association says the best way to help someone who is

depressed is by being supportive, listening and showing that you care. If needed, speak with a mental health professional about the friend or family member.

Jennifer did end up taking those pills that day in her car. In the end, her attempt at suicide failed, and she eventually worked her way out of that depressive episode. When another one occurred in 2002, she finally sought help and today is learning to be a happy person. "It was the best thing I've ever done," she says.

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May 5-29, 2003  
Monday - Thursday  
8am-8pm

Student & Administration Center, A137a

June 2-5, 2003  
Monday - Thursday  
11am - 7pm

June 9 - 10, 2003  
Monday & Tuesday  
11am - 7pm

### TOUCHTONE REGISTRATION

847-925-1515

February 27- June 10, 2003  
Monday - Thursday  
7am - 4:30pm

February 28 - June 6, 2003  
Friday  
7am - 4:30pm

June 7, 2003  
Saturday (only)

**WEB REGISTRATION @ [www.harpercollege.edu](http://www.harpercollege.edu)**

**Begins on @ 9:00am** February 27 - June 10, 2003

## Truant

By Todd A.A.



## TOP TEN REASONS THE HARBINGER COMES OUT LATE:

10. We wanted to see if anyone complained
9. We haven't heard from Dann Gire in awhile, and we misbehave to get attention from him
8. Sean Kelly got in a car accident, and for some reason bruised shins prevent him from operating a computer
7. Damn the man who invented Jack Daniel's!
6. Anthony McGinn is currently involved in unraveling a series of clues about a videotape which kills the viewer seven days after
5. addictinggames.com has 3-D pong
4. Our layout editor got a girlfriend
3. There was an incident involving those free condoms they gave out at Mardi Gras
2. We misplaced the Harbinger office key
1. The staff was busy making travel arrangements to Canada in the event of a war in Iraq

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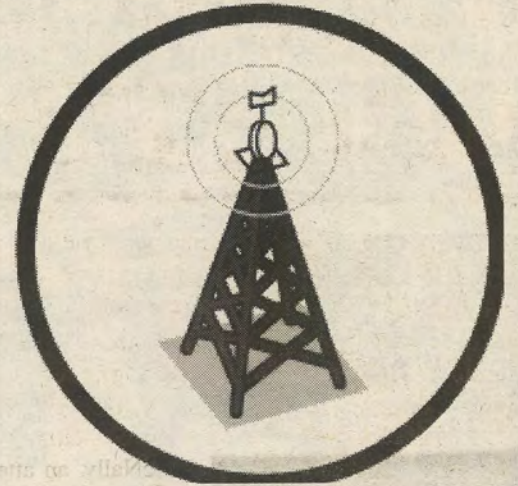


A R T S and E N T E R T A I N M E N T

# W H C M:

## F R E Q U E N C Y M O D U L A T I O N

**Hawk radio goes FM on 88.3, but what can we expect from Harper's own station? Chrystine Hanus reports**



After a decade of determination, Harper College in Palatine, Illinois revels in its success to launch a student FM radio station.

Although Harper College's student-managed radio station has been in operation for over 30 years, it only was a few weeks ago the station could be heard outside the campus. After ten years of paper-shuffling with the Federal Communications Commission, the FCC approved a power upgrade to 100 watts after the college agreed to share the frequency with Christian Liberty Academy, Arlington Heights, Ill. In November, 2000, Harper College was granted a construction permit to build an antenna and modify equipment. About two years later, in January 2003, Harper College Music, WHCM, broadcast live for the first time on 88.3 FM. Last week the FCC acknowledged the radio station and approved Harper College's application for a radio station license.

Robert Yeoman, the school's volunteer broadcast technical consultant, said the concept of delivering the station on FM radio has been a dream since he was a Harper College student and station manager in the early 1970's—the station had but “two turntables and a cheap mixer back then.” Today, the station only plays compact discs; and songs are chosen from thousands in stock—many sent as promotions from record companies.

WHCM (affectionately referred to as “Hawk Radio” inside the station) operates 24 hours a day, Monday through Thursday during the spring and fall semesters. Under the FCC agreement, the Christian Liberty Academy has the right to broadcast Friday through Sunday. However, this could change soon. Paul Lindstrom, founder of



To celebrate its increased reach, WHCM 88.3 broadcasted live from the Student and Administration Center (Building A) on the Harper College campus Thursday, Jan. 23, 2003.

*Photo by Kiel Cross*

# 88.3 fm

Christian Liberty Academy and the leader behind the Christian radio station, died in May, 2002. According to Dave Dluger, Harper College media services and part-time faculty advisor to WHCM, Christian Liberty Academy has approached Harper College regarding the school's interest in assuming the church's share of the frequency. Dluger said the college “is very interested” but no set plans have been made. Under FCC guidelines, Harper College has first-refusal

to the Christian radio station's frequency.

WHCM can be heard in areas as north as Lake Zurich, Addison to the south, Barrington to the west and Wheeling to the east—depending on the weather and interference from other radio stations. Even though Dluger said he heard the station all the way to Cumberland Avenue last week, the signal is expected to increase in strength when a new 48-foot antenna, double its current size, is built atop the Science, Health

Careers and Emerging Technology building, currently under construction until spring, 2004. Harper College decreased the height of the first antenna for aesthetic purposes.

WHCM is funded by a portion of the student activity fee paid by every registered Harper College student which, in turn, provides commercial-free radio. News segments are not regularly scheduled but disc jockeys may download news off the internet. The station plays a broad range of

music approved by Dluger and student managers. Within 30 minutes, listeners may hear “Bad Moon Rising” by Creedence Clearwater Revival, The Who's “Pinball Wizard,” Aaliyah's “Try Again,” “Because I Got High” by Afroman, Aqua's “Barbie Girl” and U2's “Beautiful Day.” WHCM accepts requests at (847) 925-6237.

Dluger said WHCM has received “great feedback ... no complaints have reached my e-mail in-box.” WHCM has the potential to reach 100,000 listeners but Dluger said it is impossible to know how many listeners tune in without hiring a media firm, such as Arbitron Inc. based in New York City, NY, to conduct surveys using people meters—a costly initiative.

The station has three student managers who are responsible for hiring, firing and training the 30+ student disc jockeys, as well as programming songs and writing scripts. First-year students read scripts and play pre-programmed music to get a feel for the environment; second-year students write their own scripts and play station-approved music. Shifts are two, three or four hours long, one time a week. Dluger said approximately half of the students working at the station plan to pursue a broadcasting degree—a previous student was hired at NBC. “It's a great opportunity for others to hear your voice outside campus,” said Yeoman. Interested students can obtain an application from the radio station located on the third floor of Harper's Student and Administration building.

Dluger said future plans for the radio station may include the creation of a WHCM web site. The paperwork involved in radio web casting, however, is a project the college is not prepared to initiate in the near future.



# Start your engines: cars of the future at the 2003 auto show

By Habib  
Behrouzi



Retro styling, SUVs, cross-breeds, and lots of power are the answers. The question is, What would one find at the 2003 Chicago Auto Show? This year's show seemed more cluttered than usual for most people. However, for the yearly attendees, the shoulder-to-shoulder maze was more than tasteful for them.

Grand displays at each manufacturer were made up of current models, concepts, racecars and even vintage cars to show that some things just don't change. Aside from car companies, several organizations set up displays to appeal to the appetite of a true car enthusiast. The Sports Car Club of America (SCCA) set up their booth displaying a few race-prepped cars which did exceptionally well in circuit racing.

The Volo Auto Museum, located right next to SCCA, displayed a few prime examples of vintage vehicles along with "Eleanor," the 1967 Shelby Mustang GT500 that starred in the movie "Gone With the Wind" with Nicolas Cage. This particular car is a fine example of how car manufacturers are implementing the retro styling, or classic look. At the Ford booth, the new Mustang GT concept was on display - all its traits modeled after the 1967 GT 500. This classic look appeals to

many people because it is a redefinition of something familiar, something a lot of people grew up seeing, and grew up seeing it change.

"It's good to see the past come alive again," said Brendan McNally, an attendee and enthusiast.

Indeed it has with Chevrolet's SSR prototype truck, which Chevy is not calling retro, but more of a heritage. Its rounded, beefy fenders and aggressive, raked look gives it a 1950s appearance. Pontiac also is reviving the GTO namesake and will be in dealers for 2004.

Now out with the old (not really) and in with the trendy. Trendy is what is occupying highways and grocery store parking lots. SUVs. They are everywhere and car companies that you would never imagine having them are jumping on the bandwagon.

The newest ones this year are Porsche Cayenne and Volkswagen Touareg. Their objective is simply to cater to the whole market. Other companies are venturing into different size SUVs such as the BMW X Activity concept, a smaller (not by much), sportier version of the X5.

All the new SUVs are coming packed with big power and no mercy. The new Porsche Cayenne Turbo, for example, will come with a twin-turbo, 450-horsepower V8 that would reach 0-62 in 5.6 seconds. Not bad for something to haul the groceries in.

However, if being the super soccer mom isn't your motif, and



you desire power without compromising looks, every car company offers something for you. Turbos, V8s, V16s, superchargers and simply fine engineering have given this year's auto show a whole lot to rev over. Most even offer big power without the big bucks.

The car scene amongst the younger generation has boomed within the last few years. Car manufacturers are now implementing different styling cues and engine platforms to tailor to this generation. Certain models of the new Mitsubishi Lancer and Dodge Neon come turbocharged

with a front mount intercooler, something that was mostly prevalent in the aftermarket scene.

"Car companies are now noticing that driving cars should be fun, not always economical," Joel Santos said as he gazed at the new supercharged Ford Lightening.

Although many of these concepts will never make it to production, seeing new designs, witnessing new technology and, for some, experiencing that child-in-a-toy-store feeling are what bring people back to the auto show every year. If they can pack a 500-horsepower, V10, 0-60 in 2-second engine on a motorcycle, anything is possible. Oh yeah, that was at the show, too.



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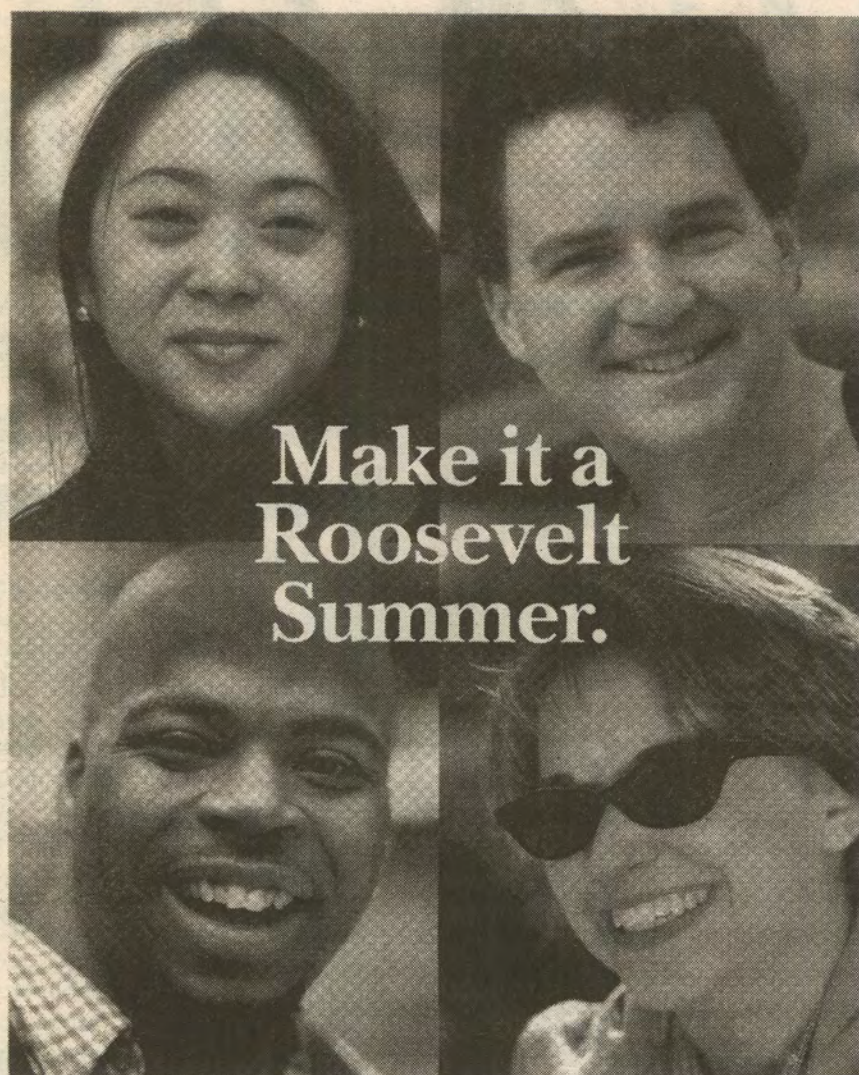
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## A "Meeting" of the minds, a formula for great theatre

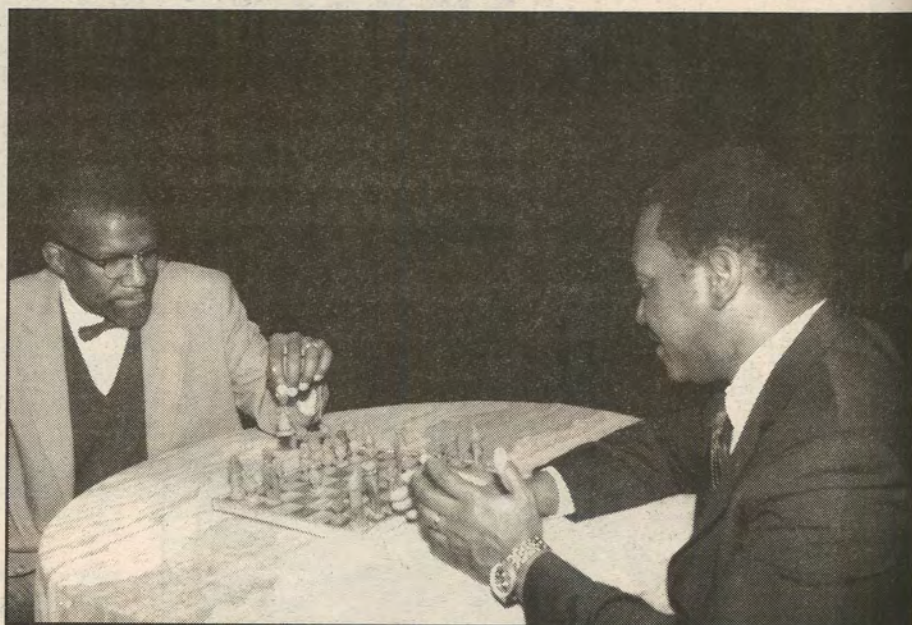
By Kathleen  
Kudia

In honor of Black History Month, the play, *The Meeting* was performed on Feb. 4, 2003 at noon and at 7:30 p.m at the Business and Social Science Center Theater. The Meeting is a fictional discussion between Civil Right activists Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X. The Meeting, written by Jeff Stestson was performed by members of Pin Theater Group and it was sponsored by Harper's Program Board, Black Student Union, and UPS. There was a special performance for grade school students at noon and a second performance for the rest of the public at 7:30 p.m.

Set during 1965 in a simply furnished hotel Room in Harlem, the play focused on the philosophies of both Malcolm X and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. When the play opens, the audience learns that Malcolm X has invited Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to the hotel in

Harlem in order to possibly unite forces in the Civil Rights movement. Once Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. arrives, the stage is set for a confrontation of ideas. Malcolm X challenges Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s non-violent approach and King challenges Malcolm X's idea of any means necessary to achieve justice. Their arguments are supplemented by comical arm wrestling matches in order to learn whose method is better. In the end they call a tie, even though they know they can never resolve their argument. They become friends when they realize that they share similar feelings toward their families.

The Meeting is a highly acclaimed show that has won many prestigious awards like the Louis B. Mayer award, eight NAACP theater awards, and six New York AUDELCO nominations.



A Chess game between opposing ideals, "The Meeting" depicted fictional conversations between Civil Rights leaders Martin Luther King, Jr., and Malcolm X, who never met in real life. The play, which has won numerous awards and accolades, came to Harper as part of Black History Month.

Harbinger staff photo



# I'd like to thank the Academy...

By Stephanie Wolferman



The gowns, the smiles, and those long acceptance speeches – all things associated with the Academy Awards. This year will probably be no exception, but it should be more exciting: the awards are really competitive this year. This time around it seems even harder to predict who will go home with the awards, and it seems that the odds will keep changing till the stars arrive at the Kodak Theater. Yet, here is my stab at who will be up on that podium March 23, 2003 (7:30 p.m. on ABC), crying their eyes out and thanking all for this honor.

**Best Picture** ("Chicago," "Gangs of New York," "The Hours," "The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers," "The Pianist"): It seems this year is going to be the comeback of the musical. "Chicago" seems to be taking over the reigns from "Moulin Rouge," and it should handle the job fine. "Chicago" seems like it will win since it is escapism entertainment (during a period of uncertainty) and it is a

hit with everyone. The only film that could tango with "Chicago" over the Oscar is "The Hours." But I think because of its dark tone, it will be overlooked. "Chicago" will dazzle the Academy in this category.

**Best Actor** (Adrien Brody, "The Pianist"; Nicolas Cage, "Adaptation"; Michael Caine, "The Quiet American"; Daniel Day-Lewis, "Gangs of New York"; Jack Nicholson, "About Schmidt"): This race is looking like a close one between Nicholson and Day-Lewis. My bet is on Nicholson because he is well respected by the Academy and because Day-Lewis is playing a bad guy (it is rare to award villains, especially right after Washington won last year playing a seedy character). Even though my personal favorite is Cage, I don't see him going anywhere in this category. **Best Actor** is a tough category to call, but I think Nicholson is going to receive his fourth Oscar.

**Best Actress** (Salma Hayek, "Frida"; Nicole Kidman, "The

Hours"; Diane Lane, "Unfaithful"; Julianne Moore, "Far From Heaven"; Renee Zellweger, "Chicago"): It seems that the two stars competing for this award underwent transformations this season: Kidman's was physical and Zellweger made herself into a singer. I think this year the Academy will give the award to Kidman. Last year was her comeback year, and she is still proving that she is going strong; they will give her the award since they didn't last year. Sadly, Moore, who I believe should win, has no chance of catching up to the others (while Hayek and Lane are complete long shots). Otherwise, I can only see Zellweger stealing Kidman's thunder if the campaign for "Chicago" gets more intense. But I believe that Kidman's transformation was more believable and I think the Academy sees that as well and will give her the award.

**Best Director** (Pedro Almodovar, "Talk to Her"; Stephen Daldry, "The Hours"; Rob Marshall, "Chicago";

Roman Polanski, "The Pianist"; Martin Scorsese, "Gangs of New York"): I think this is going to be Scorsese's year. I think that the Academy will finally award him, after snubbing him for years (I hate when they give out pity awards). This category seems the least competitive, as if reserved just for Scorsese this year. I would be shocked if anyone took this moment away from him.

**Best Supporting Actor** (Chris Cooper, "Adaptation"; Ed Harris, "The Hours"; Paul Newman, "Road to Perdition"; John C. Reilly, "Chicago"; Christopher Walken, "Catch Me If You Can"): The first of two completely open races. I think it will come down to Cooper and Reilly. Cooper has gotten most of the awards for his performance, but Reilly has been in a lot of films this year and turning in great performances. Reilly was in three of the nominated films this year for Best Picture and may be this year's Jim Broadbent. But I do think Cooper

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

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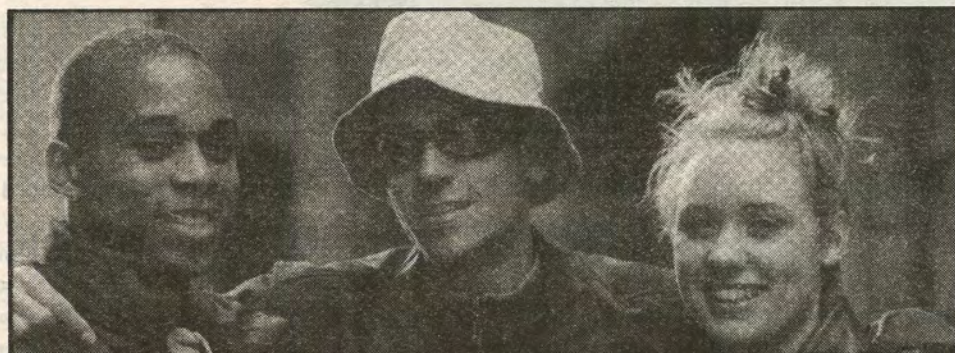
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## The Simpsons:

# 300

# EPISODES

*No one could have foreseen the massive impact "The Simpsons" have had on world culture- catch phrases, merchandise, a word in the Oxford English Dictionary. Now America's favorite animated, yellow family celebrate 300 episodes- that's a lot of "Ay, Caramba's"*

*-By Ben Eaton*

"If you get mad at me every time I do something stupid, then I guess I'll have to stop doing stupid things," said television legend Homer Simpson, whose "stupid" acts helped propel "The Simpsons" to legendary status.

When "The Simpsons" went on the air Feb. 16, it reached a new milestone, which helped cement its place in television history.

What milestone you might ask?

"The Simpsons" celebrated its 300th episode. Well, actually its 302nd episode, considering the 90-minute runtime it received. No matter how many episodes of "The Simpsons" actually aired, this one in particular was very special, and one that the fans should have enjoyed.

"The Simpsons" first premiered Dec. 17, 1989, with an episode called "Simpsons Roasting on an Open Fire." With its first episode in the books, the show had many skeptics, and then with its first full season in the books, no one could ever have imagined that this wild and crazy yellow-headed family would have been able to make it. No one could have ever guessed that "The Simpsons" would have

been on the air for as long as it has been. But somehow it managed to overcome all its critics and doomsayers all these years.

Now, with 13 seasons under its belt, "The Simpsons" has become one of the most honored, best loved, and it goes without saying, one of the most popular shows ever to hit the airways. But the show's immense popularity is not just limited to the television show. The success of "The Simpsons" stretches much farther than anyone could ever have imagined. The characters have jumped out of the television and into the stores, gracing all kinds of paraphernalia: T-shirts, lunch boxes, coffee mugs, posters, action figures, and so much more.

For those who missed "The Simpsons" on Sunday, here is a quick rundown of the events.

Fox aired 90 minutes of "The Simpsons," starting at 6:30 p.m. The first episode that aired was the current season's season premiere, with Homer attending Rock 'n' Roll Fantasy Camp. After it ended, "Simpsons" fans' eyes were glued to the television, waiting for the much-anticipated episode. Was it worth all the hype? You can decide for yourselves.

In this 30-minute episode, Bart learns, when watching some old family videos, that Homer placed him in a very embarrassing commercial. In the commercial, Bart played the role of Baby Bad Breath. What's worse, he learns that Homer has spent all his earnings on himself. This causes Bart to completely flip out toward his father, and he decides to do something very drastic.

Divorce his parents.

In court, the judge gives Bart his emancipation, which declares him a legal adult and allows him to move out on his own. The courts also award Bart half of Homer's salary until Homer's debt is completely paid off. With the money, Bart rents a very poor apartment, which just happens to be a few floors under the residence of skateboarding legend and celebrity guest star Tony Hawk.

Throughout the episode, Homer tries to figure out how to get Bart to love him again and come back home. So, in an effort to look cool again to Bart, Homer persuades Hawk to throw a skateboarding competition for him. Hawk agrees, but when Homer begins to show him up, Hawk tries to win but winds up hurting

himself. During the competition, Homer gets spotted by a talent agent and gets recruited for a commercial. Homer agrees to do the spot only if Bart gets the paycheck. The commercial turns out to be a very embarrassing ad for a drug called Viagragain, a mix between Viagra and Rogain.

In all, it wasn't one of the show's better episodes, but still one that was packed with a few laughs. Along with Tony Hawk, Blink 182 joined the long list of celebrities to make cameos.

The episode that aired afterward was also new and worth a few laughs. In this episode, Lisa gets involved in a spelling bee scandal. She starts off in a school-wide competition, then moves on and wins step after step until she reaches the Spellympics. The head judge asks her to throw the competition so that one of her other competitors who was a crowd favorite [not to mention someone who is younger and cuter] can win. She decides not to throw the competition but messes up spelling her word anyway.

A side story included Krusty the Clown introducing a new sandwich, The Rib-Which, and Homer goes crazy for it. After he

finds out that Springfield's Krusty Burger no longer sells them, he joins up with a group who travels across the country following their beloved sandwich.

All in all, Sunday night was filled with two more fairly decent episodes to add to the collection.

"The Simpsons," now in its 14th season, is still scheduled to air for an additional two seasons. Some of its fans may think that it is running out of material and beginning to go downhill, while others would completely disagree. However, when the current contract is up in 2005, "The Simpsons" will have become the longest running sitcom of all time.

How many more adventures will Homer, Marge, Bart, Lisa, and Maggie go on before the show reaches the bitter end of its run? Will it get a contract extension when the current one runs out? Will it even make it until the end of its current contract? Who knows how much longer "The Simpsons" will continue to air?

One thing's for sure. The fans will stick with it until the bitter end.



On Feb. 25, 2003, "One Man Show - Frederick Douglass" was performed by Harper College history major Anthonii Sanders.

The performance was at 12:30 p.m. in Harper's Little Black Box Theater, room L-109. The show was sponsored by the Black Student Union and Harper's Speech Team, and props were provided by Harper's Multicultural Center. During the show, the talented Sanders performed as the historical figure of Frederick Douglass.

Sanders was inspired by Douglass.

"Frederick Douglass was an entertainer and an emancipator. Plus, he was multi-racial and he was one of the first true political activists," said Sanders. Douglass was an extremely well-educated runaway slave who consistently fought for civil rights. Sanders used the figure of Douglass to inform the audience that racism, prejudice and misconceptions are still prevalent in modern suburban society.

Behind the curtain, Sanders is a well-rounded entertainer and student both in and out of the Harper community. He is a comedian, musician, actor, screenwriter, an award-winning member of Harper's Speech Team and an active member of the B.S.U. Sanders also performs as Douglass and other characters for churches, junior high schools and social events. Sanders was well-prepared for this performance.

"I've traveled to Baltimore in previous years, to some of the sites that Frederick Douglass actually walked," he said. "I've read extensively, watched videos, have researched with historians and worked extensively with historians from DuSable Museum."

Not only does Sanders take pride in his own learning, but he also enjoys educating the public about African-American culture.

"I have an art display at the Rolling Meadows Library on African antiquities and original pieces," Sanders said. "I hire out for cultural events, and I teach African culture."

Sanders finally remarked about the show.

"I'd like to say that we are a multicultural society and that I, and we as American-Africans, and all of us as Americans, could learn from Frederick Douglass that prejudice and hatred bring us all down, and as soon as we realize that we are more alike than we are different, America will shine above all."

-By Kathleen Kudia

# The Grammy awards: a year in review

By Janine Slayton



On Sunday, Feb. 3, the 45th annual Grammy Awards were held in New York. The show was an interesting one, shining the spotlight on some awe-inspiring new talents while paying tribute to many of those who started it all. The performances ranged from rap artists like Eminem and Nelly to classic acts like Simon and Garfunkel and Bruce Springsteen. This year was a noteworthy one because it took a step back from the teen pop extravaganza and honored instead some artists with genuine and breathtaking talent.

The show opened with Dustin Hoffman, who apparently was not on his game that night. He referred to Bruce Springsteen as Bruce "Springstreet," and then tried to be cute by singing part of No Doubt's hit "Hey Baby." Instead he sang "Say Baby," making a fool of himself. However, No Doubt made up for his mistake in their performance, starting out with an acoustic version of "Underneath It All," and then segueing into "Hella Good." Their performance was an energetic one and proved to be a good show opener.

Along with No Doubt, there

were many other strong performances in the show. Norah Jones' performance of "Don't Know Why" captured the essence of the song, and the setup of the stage created a very intimate setting as she sang. The Dixie Chicks gave a rousing acoustic performance of "Landslide," the Roots joined Eminem for his hit "Lose Yourself," and the New York Philharmonic came together with Coldplay for a powerful and unique number. One of the more enjoyable performances was when Vanessa Carlton sang "1000 Miles," followed by John Mayer and "Your Body is a Wonderland," both leading up to a performance from legend James Taylor. It was nice to see so much genuine talent in one place at one time. But nothing could beat Bruce Springsteen when he took over the stage. He made everyone remember what rock really is.

As far as the actual awards went, Norah Jones was undoubtedly the star of the night, winning an award for every category she was nominated in, and walking away with five awards, including best new artist and album of the year. Other winners included John Mayer for best male pop vocal performance, Eminem for best rap album, No Doubt for best pop duo or group, and the Foo Fighters for best hard rock song.

Overall, this year's Grammys were very interesting and well-rounded, paying tribute to classic artists who started it all like the BeeGees while also allowing talented newcomers like Norah Jones and John Mayer to shine. While there was a boy band performance in the form of 'N Sync doing a BeeGees tribute, it was surprisingly well-done. Although "Stayin' Alive" could definitely have done without Justin Timberlake's impressive human beatboxing skills. In the end, though, it seemed that the winners were well-deserving of the awards they received, and the performers equally deserved to be on stage. Hopefully next year this positive trend will continue.

## GRAMMYS from page eight

will win since he has the recognition from critics and won the Golden Globe over Reilly.

Best Supporting Actress (Kathy Bates, "About Schmidt"; Queen Latifah, "Chicago"; Julianne Moore, "The Hours"; Meryl Streep, "Adaptation"; Catherine Zeta-Jones, "Chicago"): An even harder race to figure since no one seems to be at the forefront. I think it will come down to Zeta-Jones in "Chicago" and Julianne Moore of "The Hours." Moore is nominated twice this year for two great roles and since her chances are slim with Best Actress, the Academy may give her the award in this category (plus, she is a talented actress with no Oscar on her mantle). But I think the edge may go out to Zeta-Jones. This is probably the only chance for "Chicago" to score an acting Oscar nod, and a lot of people seem to think that she is the energy of this film. Plus, she is an up-and-coming actress and she is half of a star couple. I think she will nab the Oscar, even over competition like Streep and Moore.

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## S P O R T S

### Rookie coach, rookie team hope to make noise

By John  
Krupa



Some fast-paced on-court action highlights another Hawks basketball game. Despite some shortcomings and an inexperienced team, the Hawks have already won thrice the games as last season's team.

Photo by Dan Shekelton

Combine a first-year coach with first-year players, and the result usually isn't very pretty. Strangely, this hasn't been the case for Coach John Bagley and Harper's men's basketball team. Instead of flopping from the start, Bagley and his team have actually improved on last year's record. Considering the Hawks just got back four players from academic ineligibility and the youth of the team, one can only be optimistic about the future of the program.

The future looked bleak when the Hawks returned no players from last year's team. Yet, considering they won only four games, it might not have been such a bad thing after all.

Harper, with a record of 12-16, already has three times more wins than they did all of last season. Though their winning percentage isn't where they might want it to be, improving on last year's record is something to be proud of. Another highlight of the season must have been victories against nationally ranked opponents - Joliet Junior College and College of DuPage.

One explanation for the team's improvement is coaching. Coach Bagley, and his assistant Mike Ashley, must be given some of the credit for the team's improved play. Bagley, a first-round draft pick by the Cleveland Cavaliers in 1982, must have gotten immediate credibility and respect due to his experience as a professional player. "Coach Bagley is a good guy. He gets everyone involved and shares

his years of experience with us," said freshman guard George Eber.

The Hawks have had their share of struggles, though. One problem has been depth. Their roster size has fluctuated throughout the season, and they have had only six players for much of the year. Thankfully, the team just got back four players from academic ineligibility. "It spreads out the guys so we don't get tired as fast," said Eber. The addition of these four should only help the Hawks down the stretch.

The mass exodus of last year's players has allowed the newcomers to gain valuable experience early in their careers. Some of this year's mainstays might not be playing much at all if last year's starters had returned. This should be good for the future of the basketball program. "After this year we should have a great team. Especially if we are able to build up with freshman," Eber predicted. Victories usually correlate with experience in sports, and since next year's team will be loaded with the latter, one has to like the Hawks' chances. Be sure to check out the regional tournament at Harper from Feb. 28 to Mar. 1.

"We are exciting to watch. We should make a lot of noise at regionals," Eber said. With the Hawks' core of young players and their recently added depth one would have to agree with Eber's assessment - the Harper Hawks have a chance to go far into this tournament.

### This column is now renamed U.S. Cellular News

By Ken  
Lowe

U.S. Cellular Field.

I'm not much of a sports fan and even I am outraged by this. I am outraged because I can remember a time before everything was named after another soulless, greedy corporation over something as meaningless as advertising.

U.S. Cellular Field.

Get used to the idea, because that's what Comiskey Park is going to be called from now on. Places like the United Center or the Allstate Arena are starting to roll off the tongue a little easier, but that's because their corporation names don't sound stupid. When you say "United Center" you think of the Bulls (and feel pain), when you say "Allstate Arena" you might think wrestling or the circus or Disney on Ice or something.

U.S. Cellular Field.

For \$68 million dollars, a corporation with a ridiculous name and the desire to force this name into the forefront of every Chicagoan's mind has once again shown us that nothing in sports is safe from shameless promotion and nonsensical advertising.

U.S. Cellular Field.

I'm not sure who to be more angry at; the companies or the actual sports organizations. Sports used to be about the simple pleasure of watching talented individuals strive toward a tangible and achievable goal. It used to be about the teams winning and common people being able to come and support their local heroes.

Now it is about how much money the corporations can make off of decent folk who want nothing more than a good, live game with their favorite team. From the billboards pasted onto the side of the walls to the types of food and drink you can buy at the concession stands, everything is intended to milk you for money. Going to sporting events was at one time an affordable luxury that helped us ignore the dullness of our own lives.

Now it's a quagmire of over-priced advertising.

U.S. Cellular Field.

I don't believe the fans ask much. We ask that the dignity of sports be preserved. We ask that the true vision of sports, the simple beauty of a winning home run or a well-placed 3-pointer that sends a game into overtime be the main focus of the sporting event instead of it being sponsored by X-Box or Miller or something. We ask that the sports organizations at least pretend that they aren't whoring themselves to anybody who can through big money around.

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Just rolls off the tongue.